



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **LD-3**

April 10, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WATER APPEALS BOARD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2 3 VOTES

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Adopt the recommendation of the Water Appeals Board to encourage the Southern California Water Company to determine the feasibility of upgrading their water system, in the vicinity of Vermont Avenue and 111th Street (Los Angeles), to improve fire flow and fire hydrant spacing, in cooperation with the County of Los Angeles Fire Department.
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works to forward the recommendation of the Water Appeals Board to the Southern California Water Company.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

On December 18, 2002, the Water Appeals Board conducted a hearing at Public Works to consider the case of appellant Mr. William Little. The appellant sought relief from the Fire Marshall's condition to install sprinkler systems in lieu of a fire hydrant meeting fire flow standards. The Water Appeals Board, by a unanimous vote, adopted a resolution requiring the appellant to install a sprinkler system not to exceed a cost of \$15,000.

During the course of the hearing, the Water Appeals Board heard testimony regarding the inadequacy of portions of the water system and the disproportionate spacing of fire hydrants in the vicinity of the appellant's property, which do not meet the Fire Department's current standards. The property in question is located at 11029 Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles. The Water Appeals Board concluded that upgrading the water system in the area to meet the Fire Department's current standards is in the public's best interest.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These actions are consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence and Children and Families' Well-Being as it would promote improvements in water delivery services that enhance public safety within the local community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

No negative fiscal impact or increase in net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Water Appeals Board, pursuant to Section 20.12.270 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Utilities Code, is acting within its vested authority to submit recommendations to your Board.

Your Board may either adopt the recommendation from the Water Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before your Board.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Not applicable.

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CONCLUSION

At such time as this recommendation is adopted, please return an approved copy of this letter to Public Works, Land Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel